

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A firearm having a slide, said firearm comprising:
a removable, non-rotary magazine for accommodating a round of ammunition therein;
a magazine follower disposed within said magazine, said magazine follower supporting said round of ammunition and including a protruding lip extending outwardly therefrom; and
wherein a distal end of said protruding lip extends beyond a plane defined by an outer wall of said magazine.
2. (original) The firearm according to claim 1, further comprising:
a biasing member operatively connected to said magazine follower, said biasing member urging said distal end of said protruding lip beyond said plane defined by said outer wall of said magazine.
3. (original) The firearm according to claim 1, wherein:
said magazine defines an elongated housing having a rounded face disposed substantially opposite a planar face; and
wherein a mating seam of said magazine is formed in said planar face.
4. (currently amended) The firearm according to claim 1, further comprising:
a slide lever having a biasing arm which selectively communicates with said distal end of said protruding ~~lip~~ when said protruding ~~lip~~ extends beyond said outer wall of said magazine.
5. (original) The firearm according to claim 4, wherein:
said biasing arm includes a non-tapered distal end.

6. (currently amended) The firearm according to claim 4, wherein:
said slide lever includes a restraining catch and selectively pivots between an engaging position in which said restraining catch engages a slide recess in said slide, and a non-engaging position in which said restraining catch does not engage said slide recess; and
said restraining catch pivots to said engaging position when said biasing arm communicates with said protruding ~~tip~~lip.
7. (currently amended) The firearm according to claim 4, wherein:
said slide lever includes a restraining catch; and
movement of said slide is arrested when said restraining catch engages a recess in said slide recess.
8. (original) The firearm according to claim 1, further comprising:
a cutout formed adjacent an upper portion of said magazine;
a follower body extending downwardly from said magazine follower and into an interior of said magazine; and
wherein said follower body is configured such that said follower body is not disposed opposite said cutout when said magazine follower has been biased adjacent said upper portion of said magazine.
9. (original) The firearm according to claim 4, further comprising:
a magazine spring disposed within said magazine, said magazine spring urging said magazine follower upward in a feeding direction; and
said protruding lip communicates with said biasing arm when said magazine spring has biased said magazine follower adjacent an upper portion of said magazine.

10. (currently amended) A firearm having a slide, said firearm comprising:
a removable, non-rotary magazine;
a magazine follower disposed within said magazine, said magazine follower having a protruding lip extending outwardly therefrom;
a biasing member operatively connected to said magazine follower; and
wherein a distal end of said protruding lip is urged by said biasing member to extend beyond a plane defined by an outer wall of said magazine.
11. (original) The firearm according to claim 10, further comprising:
a cutout formed in an upper portion of said magazine; and
wherein said distal end extends beyond said plane defined by said outer wall of said magazine when said protruding lip is disposed opposite said cutout.
12. (original) The firearm according to claim 10, wherein:
said magazine defines an elongated housing having a rounded face disposed substantially opposite a planar face; and
wherein a mating seam of said magazine is formed in said planar face.
13. (currently amended) The firearm according to claim 10, further comprising:
a slide lever having a biasing arm which selectively communicates with said distal end of said protruding ~~tip~~lip when said protruding ~~tip~~lip extends beyond said outer wall of said magazine.
14. (original) The firearm according to claim 13, wherein:
said biasing arm includes a non-tapered distal end.
15. (currently amended) The firearm according to claim 13, wherein:
said slide lever includes a restraining catch and selectively pivots between an engaging position in which said restraining catch engages a slide recess in said slide, and a non-engaging position in which said restraining catch does not engage said slide recess; and
said restraining catch pivots to said engaging position when said biasing arm communicates with said protruding ~~tip~~lip.

16. (currently amended) The firearm according to claim 13, wherein:
said slide lever includes a restraining catch; and
movement of said slide is arrested when said restraining catch engages a recess
in said slide-recess.
17. (original) The firearm according to claim 10, further comprising:
a follower body extending downwardly from said magazine follower and into an
interior of said magazine; and
wherein said follower body is configured such that said follower body is not
disposed opposite said cutout when said magazine follower has been biased adjacent
said upper portion of said magazine.
18. (original) The firearm according to claim 13, further comprising:
a magazine spring disposed within said magazine, said magazine spring urging
said magazine follower upward in a feeding direction; and
said protruding lip communicates with said biasing arm when said magazine
spring has biased said magazine follower adjacent an upper portion of said magazine.
19. (currently amended) The firearm according to claim 10, wherein:
said distal end of said protruding ~~tip~~lip is beveled.

20. (currently amended) A method of increasing the versatility of a firearm having a slide, a slide lever, and a removable, non-rotary magazine having a cutout formed in an upper portion thereof, said method comprising the steps of:

forming a protruding lip to extend outwardly from a magazine follower disposed within said magazine;

biasing a distal end of said protruding lip to extend beyond a plane defined by an outer wall of said magazine when said protruding lip is disposed opposite said cutout;

orienting a biasing arm of said slide lever to contact said distal end after said distal end extends beyond said plane; and

pivoting said slide lever via said contact between said biasing arm and said distal end such that said slide lever communicates with said slide, thereby arresting movement of said slide.